

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An oral controlled release pharmaceutical composition having a controlled release core, said core comprising: a) a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmaceutically active ingredient; b) an optional surface active agent; c) an optional pharmaceutically acceptable alkaline agent; and d) at least one water soluble binder and at least one water insoluble binder; wherein the controlled release is achieved by way of the water soluble and water insoluble binders, and wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of anti-diabetics, HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors ~~[[ø¶]]~~ and mixtures thereof.

2. (original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a single layer of coating on said core, said coating comprising an enteric coating agent.

3-5. (canceled)

6. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble binder is a polymethacrylic acid copolymer.

7. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the enteric coating comprises a component selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate phthalate, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose phthalate, polyvinyl acetate phthalate, carboxymethylethylcellulose, ~~[[ø¶]]~~ and co-polymerized methacrylic acid/methacrylic acid methyl esters.

8-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A oral controlled release pharmaceutical composition having a controlled release core, said core consisting essentially of: a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutically active ingredient, an optional surface active agent, an optional pharmaceutically acceptable alkaline agent, at least one water soluble binder and at least one water insoluble binder; wherein said controlled release is achieved through the use of said water

soluble and water insoluble binders and wherein said pharmaceutically active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of anti-diabetics, HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors ~~[[øø]]~~ and mixtures thereof.

21. (currently amended) A method for manipulating bioavailability of an oral pharmaceutical dosage formulation comprising a core having powdered components, a pharmaceutically active ingredient and a coating, said pharmaceutically active ingredient being selected from the group consisting of anti-diabetics, HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors ~~[[øø]]~~ and mixtures thereof said method comprising the step of providing at least one water-insoluble binder and at least one water soluble binder in the core to control cohesiveness of powdered core components upon disintegration of the core.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the water-insoluble binder is a polymethacrylic acid copolymer.

23. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein said anti-diabetic is a sulfonylurea.

24. (previously presented) The composition of claim 23 wherein said sulfonylurea is glipizide.

25. (previously presented) The composition of claim 20 wherein said anti-diabetic is a sulfonylurea.

26. (previously presented) The composition of claim 25 wherein said sulfonylurea is glipizide.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said anti-diabetic is a sulfonylurea.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein said sulfonylurea is glipizide.

29. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is lovastatin.

30. (previously presented) The composition of claim 20 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is lovastatin.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is lovastatin.

32. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said water soluble and water insoluble binders comprise from more than 0% to about 10 wt% of the composition.

33. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein said active ingredient comprises from about 5 to about 70 wt% of the composition.

34. (currently amended) The composition of claim 20 wherein said water soluble and water insoluble binders comprise from more than 0% to about 10 wt% of the composition.

35. (previously presented) The composition of claim 20 wherein said active ingredient comprises from about 5 to about 70 wt% of the composition.

36. (currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said water soluble and water insoluble binders comprise from more than 0% to about 10 wt% of the composition.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said active ingredient comprises from about 5 to about 70 wt% of the composition.